

non-elected subject matter in the parent application, namely, Species IV, FIGS. 6-7, drawn to an actuator assembly mounted disc snubber.

This Preliminary Amendment presents certain amendments to the title, claims, drawings and specification of the present divisional application.

The title of the present divisional application has been changed from "MECHANICAL SHOCK PROTECTION IN A DISC DRIVE" to "ACTUATOR ASSEMBLY MOUNTED DISC SNUBBER" to more particularly identify the claimed subject matter.

With regard to the claims, claims 2-17 have been canceled by the accompanying transmittal letter, claim 1 has been canceled hereinabove, and new claims 18-24 have been added. The newly added claims are generally directed to a disc drive of the type having at least one rotatable disc and a rotary actuator assembly adjacent the disc, the actuator assembly having a side to which a disc snubber is attached. The snubber includes a snubber arm that extends over a portion of the disc and limits deflection of the disc resulting from application of a non-operational shock to the disc drive. As discussed during the prosecution of the parent application, severe contact between a rigid disc and a rigid actuator arm can directly damage the disc and/or the actuator arm, and can also damage a read/write head supported by the arm due to the propagation of wave energy down the actuator arm, resulting in the head lifting up and slapping down against the disc. This damage is minimized through the use of the snubber recited in the claims.

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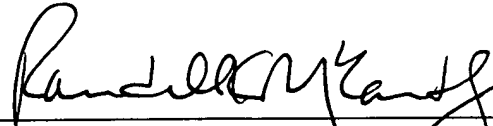
Abstract

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Respectfully submitted,

**STEPHEN R. GENHEIMER,
KENNETH L. POTTEBAUM
JON P. BAKER and
JOHN D. STRICKLIN
Applicants**

By:



Bill D. McCarthy, Registration No. 26,772
Randall K. McCarthy, Registration No. 39,297
Crowe & Dunlevy
101 Park Avenue - Suite 250
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102
Telephone: (405) 232-5600
Facsimile: (405) 232-5635

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